

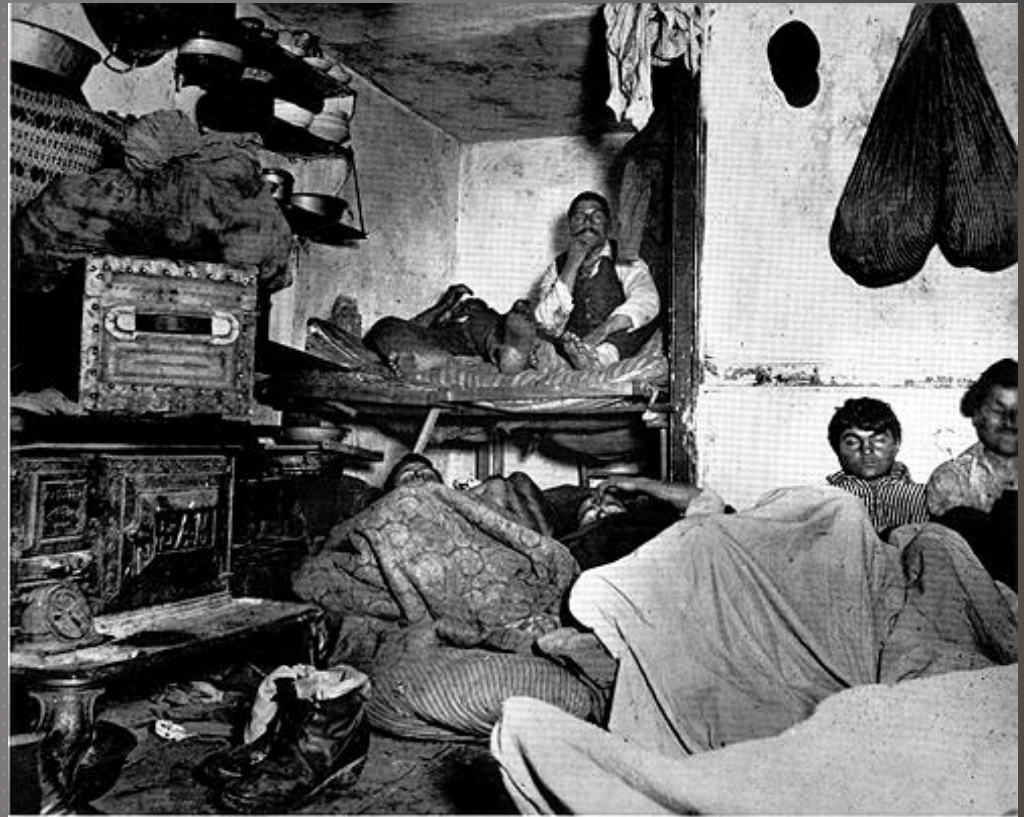


# PROGRESSIVE REFORMERS

Political, Economic, and Social Change  
During the late 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>  
Century

# JACOB RIIS – HOW THE OTHER HALF LIVES

- ▶ Jacob Riis was a photographer by trade, but every picture says a thousand words. His photography of the slums of New York illuminated a major concern in urban centers: poverty for the working poor and their children. His book, How the Other Half Lives, inspired reformers to demand access to education for poor immigrant children and welfare reform in major cities.



# JANE ADDAMS AND THE HULL HOUSE



- ▶ Jane Addams founded one of the most important settlement houses in American history, the Hull House in Chicago, Illinois. At Hull House, newly immigrated families could find a place to stay, meals, child care, and education which was targeted to helping them make the transition to life in America. Most immigrant families struggled for a while when they arrived in the United States. Settlement houses like Hull House attempted to help this transition.

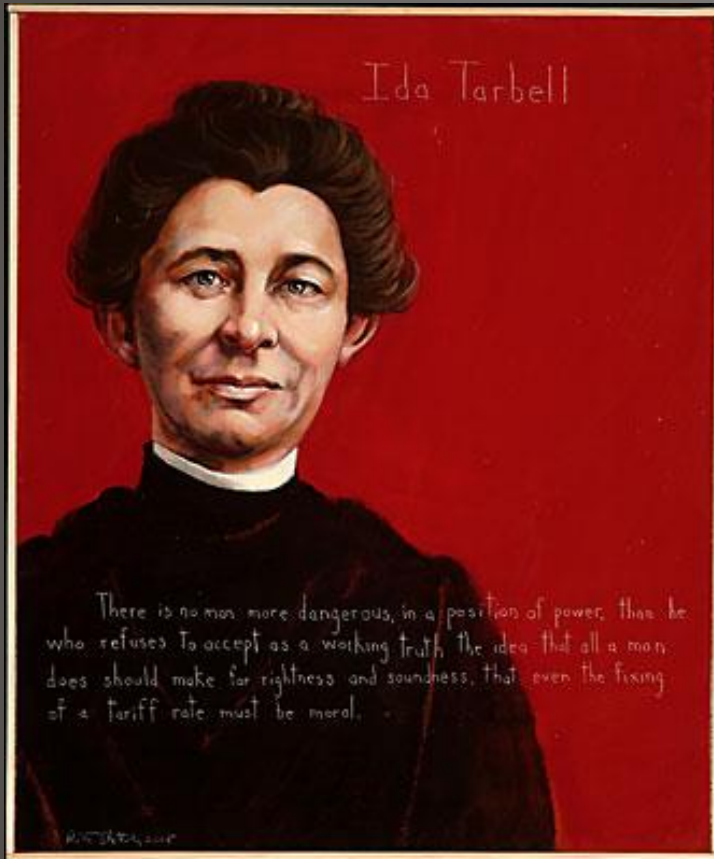


# DOROTHEA DIX – MENTAL HEALTH CARE

- ▶ Dorothea Dix started as a Christian missionary – and she did not shrink away from a challenge. Seeking out those most in need, she began visiting prisons to minister to those who had committed crimes against society. When she discovered that many of the prisoners she brought the gospels to were mentally ill – and not criminals – she began a movement to open mental health facilities to those in need. In the process, she fundamentally changed the manner in which the mental ill were viewed by society.



# IDA TARBELL – A HISTORY OF THE STANDARD OIL COMPANY



- ▶ “This is no man more dangerous, in a position of power, than he who refuses to accept as a working truth the idea that all a man does should make for rightness and soundness, that even the fixing of a tariff rate must be moral.”
- ▶ Ida Tarbell took on the most powerful business trust in the world: The Standard Oil Company. She explained how the company worked to run competitors out of the market, how they violated the Sherman Anti-Trust Act, and how politicians had witnessed the crime in action but done nothing to stop the company. Then, she began demanding changes. By 1908, anti-trust lawsuits had been filed against Standard Oil Company, at the order of President Theodore Roosevelt and the trust was eventually broken apart.

# LINCOLN STEFFENS – THE SHAME OF THE CITIES

- ▶ The subject of muckraker Lincoln Steffens writing was political corruption in cities across America. He noted that political machines like the Tammany Hall Ring were not limited to New York, and through his investigative reporting and writing, he exposed corrupt political machines across the nation. He was one of the most respected journalists – and feared investigators – of his time period, and his work helped to encourage reforms of local government in America.





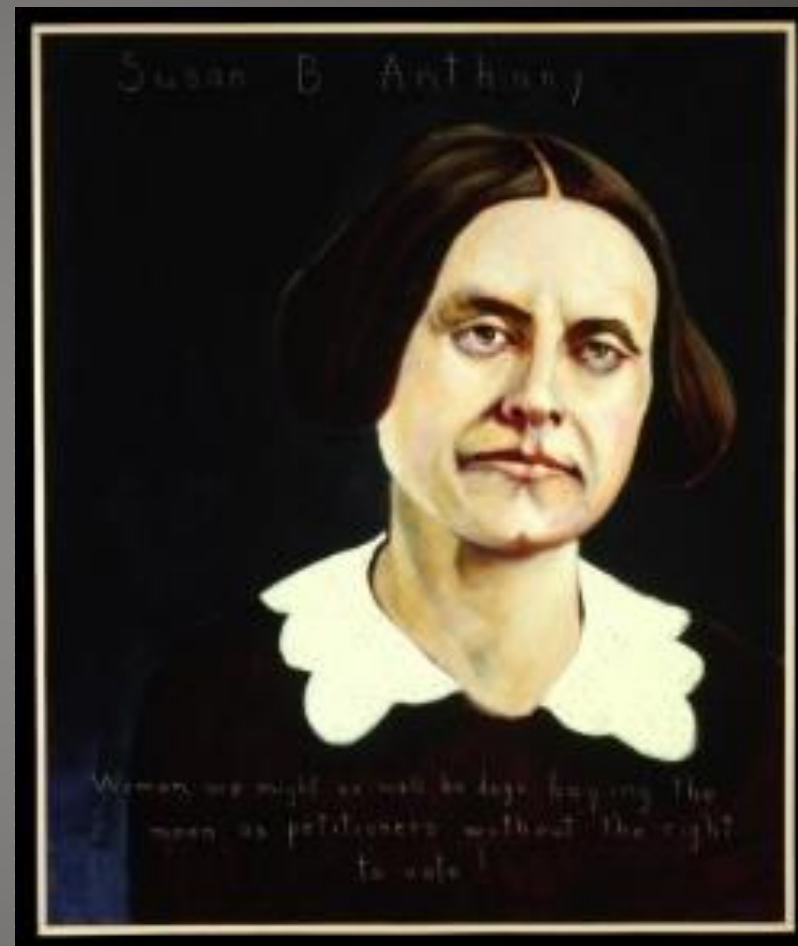
# ROBERT “FIGHTING BOB” LA FOLLETTE



- ▶ Robert “Fighting Bob” LaFollette was a Senator from Wisconsin who was devoted to empowering voters. He encouraged a variety of reforms, each of which gave more power to the voter. For example, he advocated for primary elections to choose candidates, the initiative, referendums, and the recall. He was also in favor of another major reform in American democracy: the 17<sup>th</sup> Amendment. This amendment gave voters the power to directly elect their Senators. Previously, Senators were elected by state legislatures.

# SUSAN B. ANTHONY

- ▶ Susan B. Anthony is correctly remembered as one of the most important advocates for woman's suffrage in American history. She was a New Yorker, and women in her state won the right to vote before many other states would; however, she wanted all American women to have suffrage rights. Although she would not live to see the day the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution was passed, she played a major role in that amendment becoming reality.





# ELIZABETH CADY STANTON & THE SENECA FALLS CONVENTION OF 1848



- ▶ The first time in American history that women collectively demanded the right to vote was at the Seneca Falls Convention in 1848. Elizabeth Cady Stanton was the principle author of the Declaration of Sentiments – the document in which this demand was articulated. Stanton had been inspired to seek greater political participation after she and her friend Lucretia Mott had attended the London Antislavery Convention only to discover that no female delegates would be seated. Even after the Declaration of Sentiments, it would require decades of struggle before the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment in 1919, which gave women the right to vote.

# CARRY NATION AND THE WCTU

- ▶ The Temperance Movement started as an attempt to end alcohol abuse: public intoxication in bars and saloons. Soon, though, a more radical agenda was realized. Women like Carry Nation and the WCTU (Woman's Christian Temperance Union) began to demand the complete prohibition of alcohol. Carry Nation dressed up in the costume of nun, read Scripture and sang Christian hymns – as she smashed open bottles of liquor and kegs of beer with her hatchet. She definitely made an impression on people.



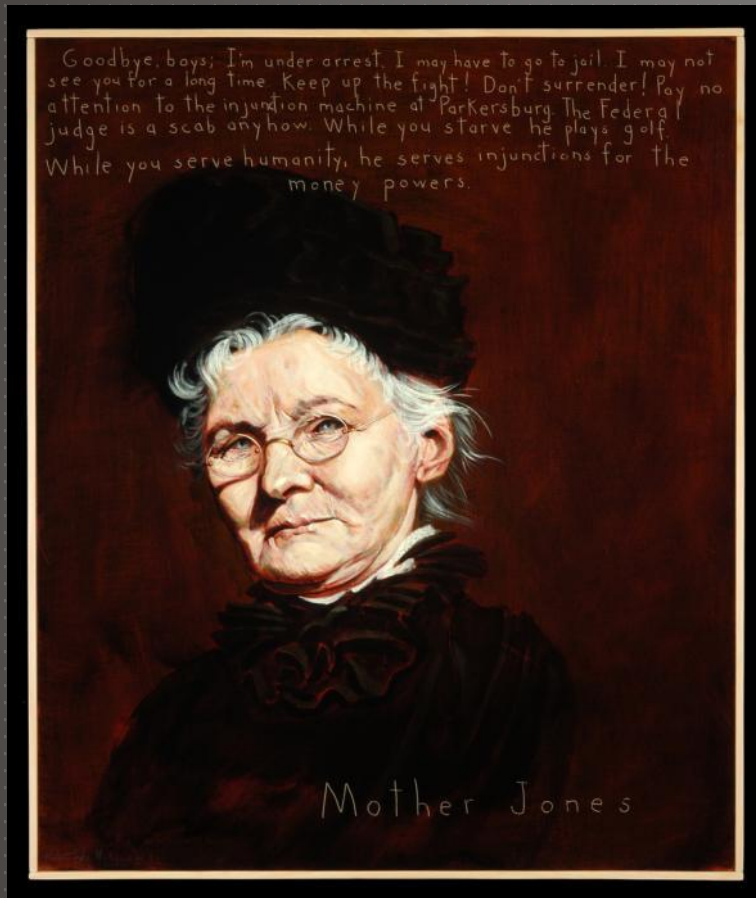
# UPTON SINCLAIR'S THE JUNGLE

- ▶ Upton Sinclair was a socialist novelist who wrote about the injustices immigrants faced when they moved to the United States. His most famous novel was a story of immigration – of a Lithuanian couple who came to the United States in search of the American dream, but who found only hardships, poverty, and despair. Although The Jungle was intended to be about the difficulties of immigrant lives, it ended up shocking Americans with its description of the filth and disgust in the meatpacking plants of Chicago, IL. After the novel came out, two important laws were passed: The Meat Inspection Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act.





# MOTHER JONES – MARY HARRIS JONES



- ▶ *“Goodbye, boys; I’m under arrest. I may have to go to jail. I may not see you for a long time. Keep up the fight! Don’t surrender! Pay no attention to the injunction machine at Parkersburg. The Federal judge is a scab anyhow. While you starve he plays golf. While you serve humanity, he serves injunctions for the money powers.”*
- ▶ Mother Jones was a leading union organizer who helped to establish the Industrial Workers of the World – and who helped to organize strikes for the United Mine Workers Union and the Knights of Labor. She was most famous for her ability to organize and her advocacy of laws to protect the safety of workers. She supported compulsory education laws to end child labor. She was actively involved in fighting for change after two of the most deadly tragedies during 1910s: The Triangle Shirtwaist Fire and the Ludlow Massacre. She once stated, “Pray for the dead and fight like hell for the living!”

# SAMUEL GOMPERS AND THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

- ▶ Samuel Gompers was the leader of the American Federation of Labor, the most important labor union in America today. The goals which Gompers advocated for included higher pay, safer working conditions, the eight hour work day, and the right to collective bargaining for unions. Although he generally opposed using strikes, occasionally, he felt compelled to put pressure on owners by using the tactic.



# FLORENCE KELLEY

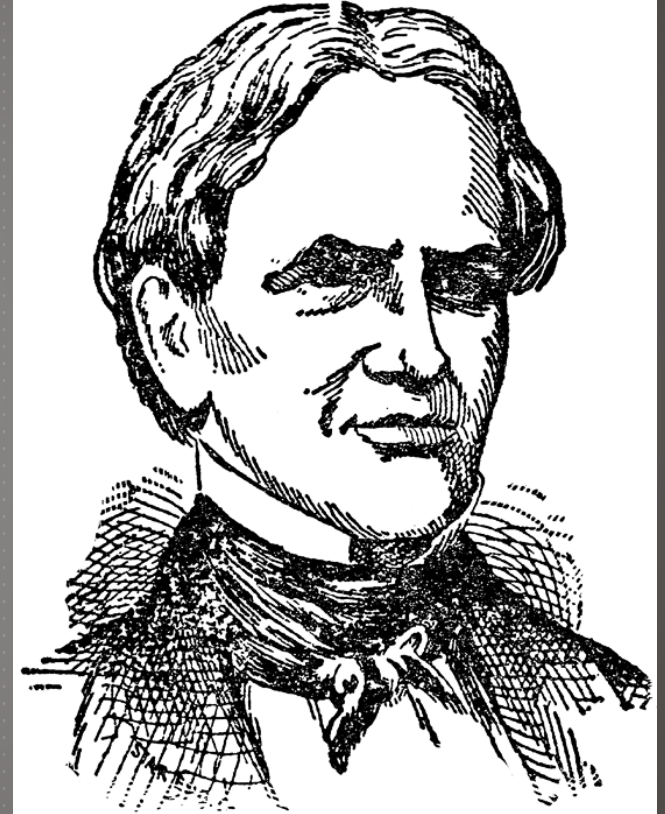


- ▶ Florence Kelley was originally hired to inspect the factories of Illinois to insure that they were maintaining safety standards. When she began her work, however, she was very concerned over the fact that children were working in almost every workplace she inspected. Kelley would go on to become one of the most important leaders in the movement to end child labor in America. Like Mother Jones, she sought compulsory attendance laws to insure that kids had access to education.



# HORACE MANN – COMMON SCHOOLS

- ▶ The original advocate of public schools was Horace Mann, who created the “Common School Movement” in New York during the 1840s. While he was concerned for children for basic humanitarian reasons, Mann also wanted to be certain that immigrants coming into America were properly educated and able to act as informed citizens. He was particularly concerned over the influx of Irish immigrant children, who he feared paid higher allegiance to the Pope than to the United States government.



# THEODORE ROOSEVELT



- ▶ Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, and Woodrow Wilson were all considered “Progressive Presidents.” However, TR was by far the most active Progressive. He supported a variety of progressive concepts, including conservation of resources, anti-trust legislation to control trusts and monopolies, and even the right to vote for women. He also concerned himself with consumer protection laws, like the Pure Food and Drug Act and the Meat Inspection Act. He proposed the acts – and signed them into law– after being horrified by the filth and disgust described in the meatpacking plants of Chicago in Upton Sinclair’s The Jungle.



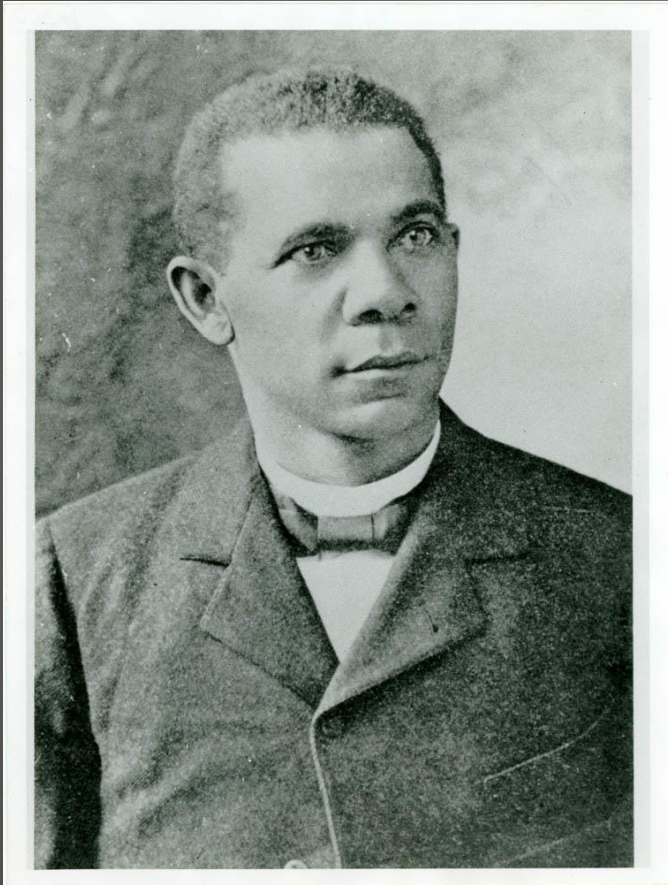
# JOHN MUIR - CONSERVATIONIST

- ▶ One of the most important conservationists in American history was John Muir. He was the founder of the Sierra Club, and his work did much to establish both Yosemite National Park and the Sequoia National Park in California. During the course of his lifetime, Muir struck up a friendship with President Theodore Roosevelt, who was the most important advocate for conservation in American history. TR would establish other national parks, including Crater Lake in Utah, and expansions of the protected regions around the Grand Canyon.





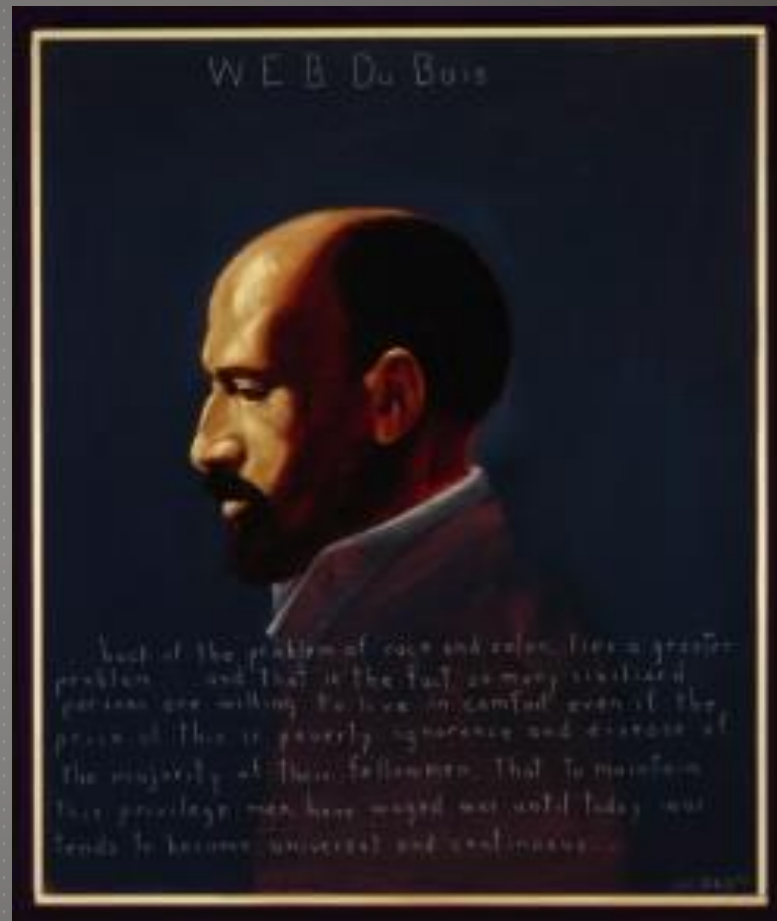
# BOOKER T. WASHINGTON



- ▶ Booker T. Washington was an advocate for African-American rights during a very difficult time period. He believed in “gradualism,” or the idea that African-Americans could not demand or expect immediate equality in society until they had made advancements in education and vocational skills. Booker T. Washington established the Tuskegee Institute to promote educational opportunities. He also worked to promote black owned businesses. He wrote a biographical book entitled Up From Slavery, as well.

# W.E.B. DUBOIS AND THE NAACP

- ▶ W.E.B. DuBois demanded immediate equality for all African-Americans. He was a co-founder of the NAACP – National Association for the Advancement of Colored People – and one of the leading voices of the African-American community for decades. DuBois encouraged the NAACP to use the law in order to advance the cause of equality for African-Americans. He realized that – in spite of “Jim Crow” laws and segregation – the Constitution was on the side of equality. And, accordingly, at some point, the courts would have to interpret the law properly... In 1954, NAACP lawyers won the case of *Brown V. Board of Education*, Topeka, KS.



# WILLIAM LLOYD GARRISON AND THE LIBERATOR

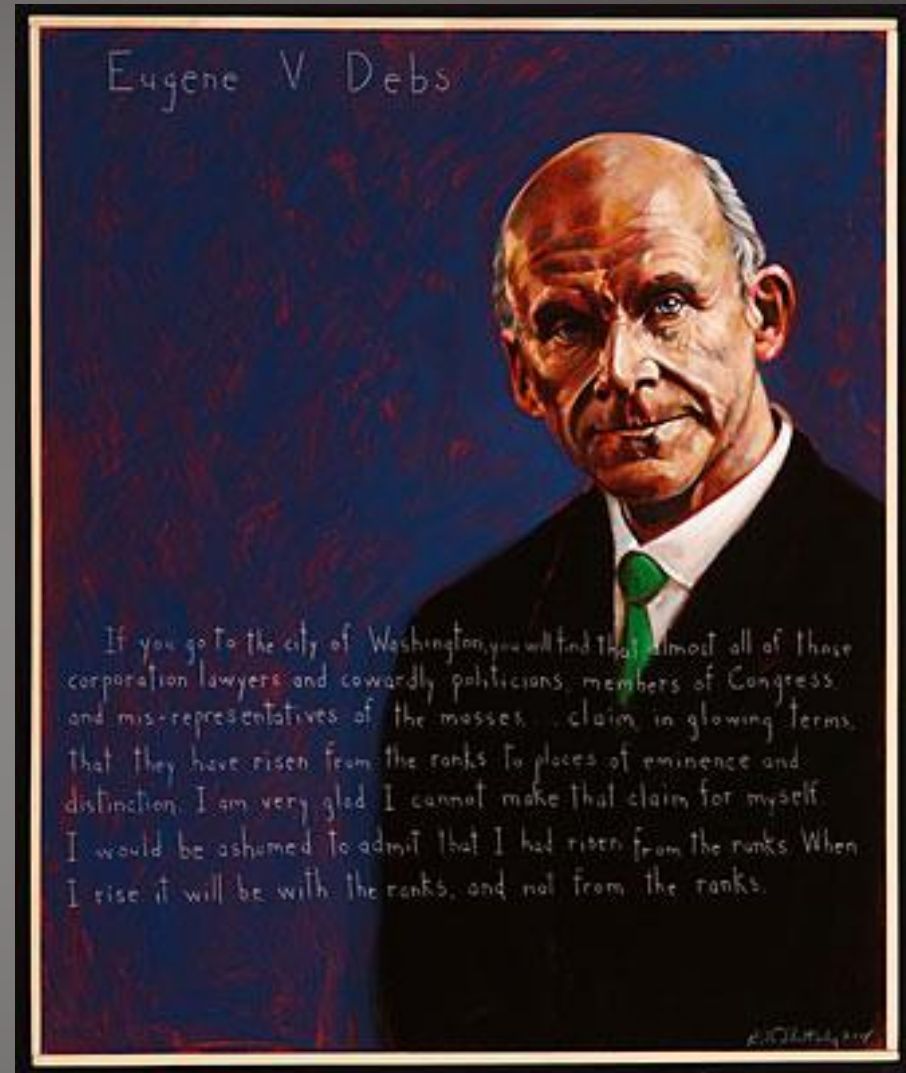
- ▶ William Lloyd Garrison was the most famous abolitionist newspaper editor in the United States. Starting in 1831, he devoted his life to the banning of slavery in the United States of America. It took many years for him to accomplish this goal, but, over three decades after the banishment of slavery, Garrison witnessed the Civil War, which ended slavery in America.





# EUGENE V. DEBS

- ▶ Eugene V. Debs was the leader of the American Railroad Workers Union, and a leading Socialist in the United States from the 1890s until the 1920s. He helped to organize the Pullman Strike of 1894, and advocated for higher pay, safer working conditions, the eight hour work day, and workman's compensation for all laborers. Debs ran for President several times and won millions of votes, although he never truly challenged for the Presidency. Debs was once put in jail for speaking out against United States participation in World War I.



# IDA B. WELLS-BARNETT: A RED RECORD



- ▶ Ida B. Wells-Barnett was another muckraking journalist, but the subject of her stories was far more grisly than those of most writers. Wells was committed to exposing the problem of lynching in the American South. She devoted her life to tracking down the names of participants in lynch mobs and exposing their crimes. Although it was difficult to win legal victories in cases, Ida B. Wells-Barnett insured that the crimes of these hateful mobs would not be forgotten by history. She compiled all of these investigative stories into a book entitled, A Red Record.